

Message Text

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----- 010121

R 231103 Z MAR 73
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9111
INFO AMCONSUL BIEN HOA
AMCONSUL CAN THO
AMCONSUL DANANG
AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 4831

EO 11652 GDS
TAGS ELAB PINT VS
SUBJECT: TRAN QUOC BUU' S NEW POLITICAL PARTY

REF: SAIGON 466 9

1. ACCORDING TO TRAN QUOC BUU, THE NEWLY- FORMED SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE (LIEN MIN DAN CHU XA HOI) FILED APPLICATION AS A NEW POLITICAL PARTY ON MARCH 21, 1973. SENATORS HJFH VANQZNO AND HOA HAO GENERAL LAM THANH NGUEYN SIGNED THE APPLICATION PAPERS. THE NEW PARTY WILL BE PUBLICLY LAUNCHED ONE DAY NEXT WEEK.
2. BUU TOLD THE LABATT THAT THE OLD CONG NONG (FARMER/ WORKER) PARTY WOULD BE THE CORE OF THE NEWW PARTY BUT THAT " THERE WERE MANY PEOPLE ASKING ME TO OPEN OUC R DOORS TO THEM AND I HAD TO CHANGE THE PARTY SO THAT THEY COULD COME IN." BEFORE THE FINAL DEMISEOF CONG NONG, THE CATHOLIC PARTY KNOWN AS THE GREATER SOLIDARITY FORCE (LUC LUONG DAI DOAN KET) WILL AFFILIATE WITH CONG NONG SO AS TO BE PART OF THE CORE OF THE NEW SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE.
3. IN ADDITION TO THE CONG NONG CORE, THE NEW PARTY WIL CON-
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SIST OF THE PREOGRESSIVE NATIONAL MOVEMENT (PNM), MR. LAM THANH NGUYEN' S HOA HAO VETERANS GROUP AND THE UNIFIED FACTION OF THE VIETNAM QUOC DAN DANG . BUU SAID THAT LE TRONG QUAT' S PEOPLES ANTIONAL RECONSTRUCTION FORCE (LUC LUONG KIEN QUOC) WANTS TO BE PART OF THE ALLIANCE, BUT BUU WOULD MAKE THEM WAIT A FEW DAYS AND THEN LET THEM IN.

4. BUUS AID THAT HIS ROLE IN THE NEW PARTY WOULD BE THAT OF FOUNDING CHAIRMAN WHICH WAS NOT AN ACTIVE POSITION. BUU WANTS TO REDUCE HIS POLITICAL ACTIVITY IN ORDER TO DEVOTE MORE TIME HX THE CVT IN THE PAST- CEASEFIRE ERA.

5. BUU SAID THAT ALTHOUGH HE EXPECTED MUCH TROULE FROM THE GOVERNMENT ABOUT THE APPLICATION FOR THE NEW PARTY, THERE WAS NO DOUBT THAT THE ALLIANCE WOULD MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF DECREE LAW 060. WE ARE NOT ANTI- GOVERNMENTN HE SAID, KE JUST WANT TO BE INDEPENDENT.

6. COMMENT: BUU'S STATED INTENTION TO SPEND MORE TIME ON CVT IS MOTIVATED BY THE CONCERN HE HAS FOR THE PROPECT OF STEPPED- UP EFFORTS OF THE COMMUNIST TO INFILTRATE CMW. IT IS ALSO A REFLEX ACTION IN RESPONSE TO REPORTS THAT THE POPE CLOSE OT PRESIDENT THIEU HAVE FORMED UNIONS IN QUANG NGAI AND BINH DUONG PROVINCES. ALTHOUGH BUU SPOKE TO PRESIDENT THEIU' S SECRETARY, MR. HOANG DUC NHA, WHO DENIED THAT THIEU WAS SEEKING TO ORGANIZE ANEW UNION, BUU DOESN' T TRUST SOME OF THIEU' S " ENTOURAGE" WHO ARE KNOWN TO FAVOR THIS COURSE OF ACTION.

7. IN VIEW OF THE EFFORTS EXPENDED BY PROFESSOR HUY AND THE PNM SINCE PROMULGATION OF DECREE LAW 060 DEC 27 TO FORM A PNM/ HOA HAO/ CAO DAI/ CATHOLIC ALLIANCE, BUU WOULD APPEAR TO HAVE EXAGGERATED SOMEWHAT THE ROLE OF THE WFP IN THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE. TO BE SURE, THE WFP WILL BE A MAJOR ELEMENT OF STRENGTH IN THE ALLIANCE DESPITE THE FACT THAT IS AND THE PNM HAVE SUFFERED SEVERE LOSSES TO DEMOCRACY PARTY RECRUITERS.
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